

Dear Sc[i]³ customers:

At their meeting on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, the Sunnyvale City Council decided to close the Sunnyvale Center for Innovation, Invention and Ideas (Sc[i]³), ending the 12-year old partnership between the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and the City of Sunnyvale. Sc[i]³ offered specialized patent and trademark services such as seminars, document delivery, expert searching, and videoconferencing.

From its inception in 1994, Sc[i]³'s goal had been to support itself through the fees it charges for its services. This goal was never achieved, and the City of Sunnyvale provided more than \$1.5 million to subsidize Sc[i]³ over the 12-year period. Due to the ongoing subsidy, and the changing nature of patent and trademark service delivery; e.g., free access to patent and trademark information via the Web, direct ordering of documents via the Web, and highly competitive seminars and searching services, Council decided to end partnership services by June 30, 2006. In order to accomplish this, direct service delivery **will be ending by May 1, 2006**. Specifically, this means the following:

Sc[i]³ Service

Document delivery
Patent Searching
Seminars
Technology Updates
Trademark Searching

Service End Date

Document requests accepted until May 1, 2006
Search requests accepted until May 1, 2006
Seminars offered until May 1, 2006
Technology updates provided until May 1, 2006
Search requests accepted until May 1, 2006

While the specialized patent and trademark services associated with the Sc[i]³ partnership will be ending, **the Sunnyvale Library will remain a Patent and Trademark Depository Library (PTDL). As such, the Library will continue to support innovation and invention by maintaining patent and trademark information, disseminating patent and trademark information to the public, and answering basic patent and trademark reference questions.** Having been a PTDL since 1963, the Sunnyvale Library will continue to be a significant patent and trademark resource in the community.

For the entire 12-year period of its operation, and especially in this past year, many individuals have stepped up to offer their time, money, and critical thinking to help Sc[i]³ create a solution to achieve cost recovery. We would like to give these individuals a special thank you for their efforts. Also, we want to thank the USPTO and Sc[i]³ staff for their exemplary efforts.

The City of Sunnyvale is very proud of its legacy as the home of Sc[i]³ and the recognition garnered from the many people who have benefited from its services. Located in the Heart of Silicon Valley, the Patent and Trademark Depository Library at the Sunnyvale Library welcomes the opportunity to continue supporting innovation, invention, and ideas.

Sincerely,

Deborah Barrow, Director of Libraries
Steve Sloan, Sc[i]³ Manager